

What is claimed is:

- Sub. A
1. A method of managing EPL overlay data comprising the steps of:
making a change to an EPL data file for an EPL;
marking the change;
recording a command to print an overlay;
reading the EPL data file for the marked change;
and
creating a print file for printing an overlay containing the change.
 2. A method of managing EPL overlay data comprising the steps of:
copying PLU descriptions from a PLU file to a PLU descriptions file;
making a change to the PLU file for an item with an associated EPL;
recording a command to print an overlay;
comparing the PLU descriptions file to the PLU file to determine the change; and
creating a print file for printing an overlay containing the change.
 3. A method of managing EPL overlay data comprising the steps of:
copying a first set of PLU descriptions from a PLU file to a master overlay data file;

copying a first set of EPL data from an EPL data file for a first set of EPLs associated with the first set of PLU descriptions to the master overlay data file;
recording a command to print overlays;
copying a second set of PLU descriptions from the PLU file to a temporary overlay data file;
copying a second set of EPL data from the EPL data file for a second set of EPLs associated with the second set of PLU descriptions to the temporary overlay data file;
comparing the master overlay data file to the temporary overlay data file to determine a third set of PLU descriptions that are different from the first set of PLU descriptions and a third set of EPL data that are different from the first set of EPL data; and
creating a print file for printing overlays containing the third set of PLU descriptions and the third set of EPL data.

4. A method of managing EPL overlay data comprising the steps of:

creating an EPL data file containing PLU descriptions from a PLU file and EPL data;
making a change to the EPL data file;
marking the change;
recording a command to print an overlay;
reading the EPL data file for the marked change;
and
creating a print file for printing an overlay containing the change.

5. A method of managing EPL overlay data comprising the steps of:

copying a first set of PLU descriptions associated with a first set of EPLs from a PLU file to a PLU descriptions file;

creating an EPL data file containing EPL data for the first set of EPLs;

determining whether the EPL data file has been changed;

if the EPL data file has been changed, marking the change;

recording a command to print an overlay;

comparing the PLU descriptions file to the PLU file to determine whether the PLU file has been changed;

if the PLU file has been changed, determining a second set of PLU descriptions that are different from the first set of PLU descriptions; and

creating a print file for printing overlays containing the change in the EPL data file and the second set of PLU descriptions.

6. A system for managing EPL overlay data comprising:

a number of storage media for storing a PLU file and an EPL data file; and

a computer which determines a change in the PLU file or the EPL data file, and which creates a print file for printing an overlay for the change in the PLU file and EPL data file.

7. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the computer reads the EPL data file for a marked change.

8. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the computer reads the EPL data file for a marked change and compares PLU descriptions in a PLU descriptions file to the PLU file to determine the change.

9. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the computer creates a master overlay data containing first data in the PLU file and the EPL data file, creates a temporary overlay data file containing second data in the PLU file and the EPL data file, and compares the master overlay data file to the temporary overlay data file to determine a third set of data representing the change.

adda